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NO CHANGE MADE.

Quarantine Line in Texas Remains as Before Recent Order of Department.

Recently the Kansay City Drivers' Telegram printed a long article purporting to be a change made by the federal authorities of the government quarantine which placed a tier of counties below the line that have always been above it.

The publication of the erroneous statements has occasioned much unfavorable comment among stockmen and shippers who have been injured by the report. While the information was given as being from an authoritative source, those affected by such an order by the government were slow to believe that the federal authorities had ever made such a ruling changing the quarantine line, and at once opened correspondence with Secretary of Agriculture and D. E. Salmon, chief of the bureau of animal industry at Washington, to ascertain if there was truth in the report circulated originally by the Drover's Telegram. One of those interested in the matter Judge D. W. Humphreys of Fort Worth, who

is secretary of the Soper Cattle company with ranches in Tom Green county. He at once wired Secretary Wilson and followed it up with letters asking if the line had been changed. He received a prompt reply from both Mr. Wilson and Dr. Salmon, denying that any such change had been made.

The letters received from both of these federal officials, Wilson and Salmon, state emphatically that no changes have been made and that instead of the federal line being moved further north and west it has been extended further south, so as to correspond with the state quarantine line. In all other respects the line remains as before, the circular making the change having been issued by the department January 10.

It is a special order modifying the quarantine line for the state of Texas and was issued from the office of the secretary of agriculture. The portion of the order which has reference to the subject matter of the article, is as follows, having been furnished The Register through the courtesy of Judge Humphreys:

And it is further ordered, That no cattle shall be moved or allowed to move from the counties of Childress, Cottle, Hardeman, Foard, Wilbarger, King, Knox, Haskell, Stonewall, Jones, Fisher, Scurry, Garza, Borden, Howard, Mitchell, Glasscock, Sterling, Irion, West, Tom Green, Upton, Crane, Throckmorton and Bay-

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lor, and that portion of the county of Pecos as described above, to any of that territory in the state of Texas lying west and north of said counties, except after having been inspected and found free of infection by duly authorized inspectors of this department or of the state of Texas, and upon written permission by such officer. No cattle from said counties shall be removed or allowed to move to any state or territory outside of the quarantined district (except as provided for immediate slaughter) unless they have been duly inspected and passed, and permit issued by inspectors of this department nor until permission has been obtained from the proper officials of the state or territory to which said cattle are destined.

JAMES WILSON, Secretary.

The sending out of such erroneous reports has already done much damage to cattle interests and will continue to injure them until the truths as they really exist become generally known all over the country, not only this state but the Northwest which country does a great amount of business with the cattle men of Texas. Judge Humphreys stated yesterday that he had already felt the bad effect of the report, and he was confident others who are interested in the Texas cattle business had been affected likewise. He said that he could not account for such a newspaper as the Drover's Telegram, publishing to the world such reports as being true until they had been investigated. They tend to cause uneasiness and a state of uncertainty that is militating to a certain extent against the prospective spring movement of cattle, especially to the Northwest.

If such a change had been made, it would have had the result of practically ruining the cattle interests in the counties mentioned above as having been placed below the government quarantine line. It would be the means of preventing the cattlemen of those counties filling their contract for future delivery.

Judge Humphreys, further discussing the different clauses in the late order of the agricultural department, said that hereafter

there would be only one inspection of cattle necessary to permit them passing into the Northwest country, and that inspection would be made by a government inspector. If the cattle carry a clean bill of health and were free from ticks, they will be allowed to cross the line without further trouble or delay, provided that permission to move the cattle had been first obtained from the proper authorities of the state or territory to which the cattle are destined.

Dr. H. D. Paxson, inspector of the bureau of animal industry, United States department of agriculture, was seen and asked for an interpretation of the new regulation. He said that the quarantine line in Texas had not been changed in any degree from what it was formerly, but that special quarantine regulations had been placed upon the counties named in the order of the secretary of agriculture printed above. This means that cattle from these counties going to the Northern states must be inspected at home by a federal inspector before moving; and in addition, the permission of the proper officials of the state or territory to which they are destined must be obtained.

Asked who would be considered the proper officials, Dr. Paxson said the Live Stock Sanitary board, or in the absence of any such board, the government of the state or territory.

Asked whether it would be required to obtain the permission of such officials where the state or territory maintains a live stock inspector within the territory named, Dr. Paxson said that such inspector, being the accredited representative of the officials of the state or territory, would be authorized to give the required permission without having to write or wire to other officials in such state or territory.

However, said the inspector, the matter rests entirely with the discretion of the officials. They can refuse to give their consent for any reason or for no reason at all; and in such event, the result would be to shut cattle from these counties entirely out of such states or territories so refusing permission.

It will not be a difficult matter to obtain the certificate for a government inspector, as three are stationed in the region named or at points convenient thereto; one being at Big Springs, one at Fort Worth and one at Quanah.

Dr. Paxson was asked concerning the recent order regarding feeding stations in the quarantined district for uninfected cattle. For answer he produced the following order of date Jan. 11, 1902:

It is hereby ordered that cattle originating outside, north, east and west of the quarantined line, as defined in bureau of animal industry order No. 93, or amendments thereto, and which are to be transported by rail through the quarantined district, may be unloaded for rest, feed and water into uninfected pens set apart for such cattle at Polk stock yards, Fort Worth, Texas; Baird, Texas; Southern Pacific Railway stock yards, Los Angeles, California; Bakersfield, California. Provided the cattle are free from southern cattle ticks and have not been unloaded at any other place within the quarantined district. They may, after unloading into said pens, be reloaded into the same cars from which unloaded, or into other cleaned and disinfected cars, and reshipped as uninfected cattle. JAMES WILSON, Secretary.

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